

him as a role model and mentor. He is also a respected leader outside the classroom as his innovative research has proven. I am very proud of Dr. Allison's promising discovery in immunotherapy; it represents a significant advancement in cancer research and an opportunity to save countless lives.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor Dr. James P. Allison of South Texas for his contributions to cancer research. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Allison for his life-changing work and congratulating him in advance of the Nobel ceremonies in December.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MICHAEL  
E. LUFSEY

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the service of Mr. Michael E. Lufsey and his long and honorable government contract career. Mr. Lufsey has honored his country with over 40 years of service in graphic support and design, demonstrating not only skill at his craft, but devotion to our nation.

Before his career in government contracting, "Mike" graduated from Douglas Freeman High School in 1968 in Henrico, Virginia. Two years later, he served with the United States Coast Guard for a brief, two-month stint before receiving a medical discharge.

In June 1977, Mr. Lufsey provided government contractor services with Magnavox Government and Industrial Corporation as a technical illustrator. With Magnavox, he assisted with computer graphic support to Department of Defense clients, developing military technical training manuals. In November 1992, Mike transitioned to TAD Technical Services, working as a Graphic Artist and providing graphic support for technology companies like IBM and JAYCOR. By August of 1993, Mr. Lufsey was the Senior Graphic Artist and Illustrator at Coleman Research Corporation where he provided graphic support for the Department of Energy on training presentations, briefings, and Department plans.

In September 1997, Mr. Lufsey became a Principle Designer with Anteon Corporation (later General Dynamics). In this capacity, he performed briefing support services and magazine development for three Navy Flag Officers. He also produced large scale posters which were placed onboard the USS *Ramage* for tours conducted at the Army/Navy game in December 2008.

For the past 21 years, Mr. Lufsey has served a contract with ECS (formerly Paradigm) and has continued to support the mission of the Missile Defense Agency and Aegis Missile Defense as a graphic designer. Throughout his prestigious career, Mr. Lufsey has received acclamations from satisfied clients and grateful organizations including letters of appreciation from four Rear Admirals, commendations from the Scientific Advisory Board, and the Theater Surface Combatants Unit Award for Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Mr. Michael Lufsey's lifetime of accomplishment and dedication. An admirable illus-

tration of leadership and service, and an outstanding member of our community, may God bless Mr. Lufsey and his family as he continues to be an example of service and commitment. On behalf of America's First District, we say thank you.

#### CONSTITUENT COMMENTS ON SOBER LIVING HOME PROBLEMS

**HON. DANA ROHRBACHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again regarding the hearing held by the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice on September 28, 2018 on the issue of sober living homes. At that hearing, I had the privilege of testifying at that hearing in support of my bill, H.R. 5724, to restore local oversight over sober living homes. As part of my testimony, I submitted to the Subcommittee letters from many of my constituents about problems with sober living homes caused by current federal law preventing appropriate local oversight. For the benefit of my colleagues and the American people, I include in the RECORD the third group of these constituent letters:

As an ER nurse and a mom, I taught my children the dangers of drugs and thought I would never have issues. At 17, my high functioning autistic child was addicted to marijuana. I sent him to wilderness camp, rehab centers and nothing worked. At 18, I made a decision to put him into a sober living home thinking he would learn life skills and to be clean. Instead, he learned that if he would fail sober living and go to a rehab center he was eligible for a grant of \$3000 and he could keep \$1000 but the guy who was setting it up would keep the rest. His job is to recruit people to fail at sober living to obtain grants. Luckily for us, my child had the fear of never being able to live at home. I have seen at least 100 patients from SLH test positive for substances even hiding small shampoo bottles inside body cavities with other people's urine to use for testing. Recruit to CA for more money in benefits is what they are told. Then they are stuck here. I see patients that are here from Maryland, Texas, Nebraska, and Florida. They were brought here for rehab, went into sober living home and now are homeless, addicts, with no money to get home.

MONTE KAY YOHR,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

My wife and I have lived in our home for 29 years and raised our kids here. It was a quiet residential neighborhood up until approximately a couple of months ago when a sober living home moved in four doors down from us. Since then I have witnessed numerous occasions when armed police officers and parole officials have had to come to the sober living home to talk with the residents. This August at approximately 1:30 a.m. there were three individuals captured on numerous neighborhood surveillance cameras cooking up heroine, jumping over fences and trying to enter the homes of my neighbors as police officers tried to apprehend them. Needless to say, as these drug people were just outside my home, my wife and I were very upset! On another occasion one of the sober living home residents had one of their pit bull dogs loose and on the street barking and terrorizing the neighbors. Thankfully the dog

catcher was able to apprehend them before someone got hurt or bit! Treatment centers are needed, BUT not in a family residential neighborhood! Please help us regain our neighborhood!

ALAN OSTERHOUT,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

Ever since the detox/sober living home opened IN our neighborhood, our lives have never been the same. Loud and obnoxious music, nonstop barking dogs, day and night. Cars and people in and out of the house at all hours. There's been incidents of them trying to break in to people's homes, running through our yards at night, doing heroin in the street corner and one exposing himself to a child. All this in a neighborhood full of hardworking and law-abiding families and less than fifty feet from a middle school. There is something terribly wrong when the government fails us at all levels. The fact that we pay taxes should count for something, especially when it comes to protecting our families. If something isn't done soon, I'm afraid there won't be any turning back. You need to implement rules, regulations and laws that will prohibit these unscrupulous places from invading our neighborhoods. These are for-profit places, money is their goal. The characters running these places are shady, we know for a fact that several of them are in probation and all the activity described above is substantiated by video footage. I'm pleading with you to please save our families and our neighborhoods.

MANUELA ALMEIDA,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

The purpose of this letter is to be among the several with growing concerns over the establishment of a Sober Living Home in our community. My wife and I live on [ADDRESS], next to [REDACTED] Elementary in Huntington Beach. A Sober Living Home was recently established at the end of our block. Since that time our neighborhood has undergone a sweeping change in way in which we conduct our day-to-day activities.

We have noticed a marked increase in the number of people who are not members of our neighborhood, simply walking the street. At first, this does not sound too ominous. Then we add in the number of cars, not from the local area that are driving very slowly up and down our street. Please remember that we are located within 300 feet of an active Middle School. These are not the cars of parents picking up their children as school starts on September 5 for them. These are not people who are lost or looking for an address. These are people who seem to stop and start in front of the Sober Living House. There are people at all hours of the night that seem to open the trunk of a car and put something in; or, take something out of the car and then carry on down the street. This is all documented and supported with footage from local household security cameras.

My curiosity rose to the highest level of concern when on Friday morning, August 24 at 1:30 AM, I was startled by unusual noises outside the front of my house, where my bedroom window is located. I looked outside the shutters only to find two strangers at my window. Please take notice that my bedroom window is 30 feet or a full driveway length off the street. These two were prowling in front of my bedroom where my wife and I were sleeping. I ran to the front door, which is always locked and chained, turned on the porch light to startle and scare them off. My wife shouted we were calling the police and indicated we had a gun. I also have the RING security doorbell/camera. I activated it immediately so that I could observe their response. The video shows two male figures approaching my front door and then turning

and leaving. We called the Huntington Beach police department who immediately dispatched a patrol car. The car was seen driving up and around our neighborhood. My wife notified other members of our neighborhood watch group and communication between neighbors began quickly. We learned that other people had similar occurrences, including one neighbor who had his house invaded by them. They apparently entered a house, saw the occupant, turned and fled.

My wife and I eventually spoke with a police officer at 2:30 AM after placing a second call to the department. During our "interview" the officer informed us that they were looking for two adults, one male and one female. We reported two males. Therefore, it turns out there were three people involved in this event. The officer informed us that the Sober Living Home was NOT involved. Strangely enough, after several members of our neighborhood became involved and checked their security cameras, the group of two and three were seen crossing the backyards of several homes in the neighborhood, entering and exiting the Sober Living House where, it was documented, they may have lived, or visited frequently. We were then able to piece together a complete story that involved these three being involved in drug transportation and use (witnessed by residents), the police and police helicopter called in to apprehend, the suspects crossing through several backyards and, as previously stated, entering a neighborhood home while the resident was there. Remember, the police said members of the Sober Living House were not involved, yet quite clearly, they were.

While I understand the local police would like to control the situation, I find it appalling that they believe that dis-information and mis-information is the best way to proceed. A neighborhood meeting was called over this event. A local member of our community volunteered their house for the meeting. I attended it and sat quietly. I learned of parents that are afraid to let their child walk the quiet neighborhood block to school. I heard of the large number of households that have invested in security cameras for their homes. My wife and I are among them. I now have enhanced security lights and cameras in both my front and back yards. Neighbors that are now keeping firearms more readily accessible to assist in the unfortunate case of a perfect stranger simply entering a home where they do not belong. On an incredibly personal level, there are times when I am called out of town. This past weekend was one such time. For the first time in my twenty-eight-year marriage and my wife's 58 years on this planet, she felt the need to sleep with a loaded gun next to our bed. This must be unacceptable and yet it is becoming essential to our well-being.

My distress rose to the point of anger to find that the people using the noble cause of establishing a Sober Living Environment had criminal records, were under investigation for conning older people out of money for bogus investment opportunities and, while all this is documented, nobody can do anything about it. We are told that if the Sober Living Homes are small enough, they can exist virtually unregulated, yet incredibly well-funded by insurance companies. Local governments are frustrated while State governments contribute to the problem by ignoring the possibility of corruption and challenges they permit by not regulating the environment they created. When "clean" urine is dropped off to make sure residents can pass random drug tests, not much confidence can develop in the system.

Mr. Peterson [Mayor Pro Tempore, Huntington Beach] I have been informed that

you will be speaking before a U.S. House committee about establishing some federal guidelines over these communities. Please believe that while I want every individual to have a legitimate second chance, and I understand that might mean some might have to exist in my neighborhood, I do not believe that an entire community should be told by a Limited Liability Corporation with an invisible manager that the entire community must sacrifice their safety, their security, their way of life simply because a corporation does not have to follow any rules, because no real rules exist.

While we might look at local legislation on a city level, there is great difficulty to do this because the State of California does not support the efforts of its citizenry and the local communities they are supposed to be in service of. As one of the members of our city council and as someone that has been asked to speak before the House Subcommittee, I would like to add our names to the many that are in search of help from our elected officials. We helped put you in your position conditioned on the promise you would look out for us. You will be speaking with other people put into that same position but on a larger stage. Please make sure our voices are heard and that some positive outcome from this is to be reasonably expected. The wheels of government move slowing on a national level when only a neighborhood is involved; however, since there are neighborhoods across California and some other States with similar issues, I am hoping this develops into an issue of prominence. I/we are counting on you to make that happen.

Please feel free to reach out to myself or any of the many members of our community and others for additional information or perspective. We, the citizens of your community are looking forward to your report. We hope you will make the substance of your experience available to us all.

JOHN SIMS,  
Huntington Beach, California.

Since owning a home in 2008, I have yet to NOT live next to a sober living home. In Costa Mesa, I lived next to two. One next door and one across the street. In Huntington Beach, I live next to one which is located directly across the street.

I am married and have three small boys ages seven, five and three. They rarely go outside in the front yard due to the sober living homes. Crime is ever present, drug needles found on the street, relapses, a near constant stream of cars coming and going and my son almost getting hit by these people speeding.

They are a business and need to be treated as such. There should be regulations on how many per community, how close to one another as well as how close to a school.

I'm all for recovery but my issue is the owners who don't care about many of these people trying to recover. Why not set up in a business park? The owners use our communities as profit to their business, could care less about investing in the community and make a lot of money with the aid of insurance. I don't understand how insurance continues to pay these homes.

These are businesses and need to be treated as such and not be in a residential community affecting kids, families and its residents.

SEAN CROSON,  
Huntington Beach, California.

I have lived in many and managed one sober living house in my lifetime. I have also worked at two licensed facilities specializing in addiction treatment. The fact is a sober house is a landlord renting rooms to individuals. Attempting to regulate housing based

on how it is marketed or to whom it is marketed is not a direction I would be comfortable seeing my community take. If it succeeded, it would increase the number of homeless addicts on the street. Yes, many people with money or insurance do come to rehab in licensed facilities. I find it difficult to believe that people coming from other areas for a determined number of days who have insurance or the many thousands per month that rehab costs are contributing significantly to the number of homeless addicts on the street. People may not like addicts living near them. Who would? But people might not like a commune of musicians or a group of loud teenagers moving in next to them either. They must be handled in the same manner: the way one would handle an annoying neighbor. What is being proposed sounds preposterous to me and trust me when I say the community will regret it if all those people must suddenly find somewhere else to live. What will we do next? Ask the police to become more aggressive until more people get killed for no reason?

TONY KAZ,  
Huntington Beach, California.

There were two sober living/recovery homes on my elderly mother's street. I say "were" because they turned out to be a total nightmare and thankfully a councilman was instrumental in helping to get them removed. The street is [REDACTED], and not until a young man died, did much change from the needles in neighbors' yards to unruly situations, etc. Needless to say, it was very unsettling and a shame that someone had to die in order for major change to happen. We now have a few in our neighborhood and one is 2 blocks away. It is on [ADDRESS]. There have been a few incidents already involving that house. Hopefully we can do something to have some accountability for these businesses. Common sense needs to prevail! Thank you for what you can do.

SHERRIE WOLFE,  
Huntington Beach, California.

I strongly request that provisions be enacted to regulate the growth of large and small sober living and detox facilities establishing locations in residential communities.

Located on my street, less than 100 yards from a middle school is an SLH/detox facility that recently opened its doors. In the past 30 days, curbside drug consumption, attempted and successful B & E, unleashed dog complaints and drug sales have been documented less than 100 yards from the middle school. Evidence was video-taped and filed with the local police, city council members and the city attorney. Absolutely nothing can be done by these "protective" officials by their own admissions as documented in their emails to residents of our neighborhood. The message is that there are no enforceable guidelines for them to follow. There is a ground swell of very concerned and scared residents and families banding together to create a self-protecting group which I feel is a poor workaround to the protection that we should be provided from our police and local government.

I implore you to expeditiously enact legislation that will provide a process to evaluate and approve Sober Living and Detox facilities in residential areas. These are health care facilities that need to adhere to a fair and reasonable standard work process. The process must provide our police and government officials a path to systematically evaluate complaints and apply corrective action rapidly if needed.

I have researched and learned that the State of Florida and the City of Costa Mesa, California have implemented legislation that has been successful at sorting out good operators from those that are not utilizing a fair

and balanced method of initial approval and operational evaluation.

Please work to make this a bi-partisan effort as political preference has absolutely nothing to do with what is needed. Respectfully submitted.

LESLIE WANNALL,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

As a result of the recent opening of a detox sober living home in my neighborhood, my family has experienced many negative consequences. Last week, my teenage son heard noises outside his bedroom window and discovered two members of the sober living home were cooking heroin on the back of his car, shooting up and attempting to sell heroin. The amount of traffic on our street from people cruising by the home all night long keeps our family up at night. Many nights there are helicopters overhead for several hours, which also affects our sleep. In addition, this home has two pit bulls that have been outside off leash, barking angrily at all who walk by. These dogs are left outside in the backyard and bark all night. We have seen camera footage of members of this home breaking into my neighbors' homes. This particular home, [REDACTED], is run by an ex-convict as a 10-bed facility when the law states 6 beds is the maximum allowed in a residential area. Down the street is a middle school. It is unacceptable and unsafe to have this type of home in our neighborhood. Several neighbors are choosing to move but we shouldn't have to move to maintain our safety and quality of life. I implore you to please take this matter seriously. In addition, if people are truly seeking to detox from drugs and alcohol, this is not a suitable environment to support sobriety.

Thank you for your consideration,  
SHELLEY BUKER,  
*Huntington Beach, California.*

#### HONORING JEREMIAH DAVID THORNTON, JR.

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jeremiah Thornton, Jr. Jeremiah is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 333, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jeremiah has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jeremiah has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jeremiah has become a Fire Builder in the tribe Mic-o-Say. Jeremiah has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jeremiah refurbished a house in Parkville that is used during the Christmas season for Santa to meet with children.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jeremiah for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF VIRGIL RYALS

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Virgil Ryals. Mr. Ryals is a Korean War veteran who served the United States of America honorably.

Virgil was born in Winters, California, and his family later relocated to Chowchilla.

After graduating from Chowchilla High, he joined the U.S. Army in January 1951. Completing his basic training at Fort Ord, Virgil was assigned to a unit with the 6th Army. In the summer of 1951, he sojourned with his Army companions to Pusan, South Korea where he joined the 1st Cavalry Division. Shortly afterward he was assigned to Company C of the 7th Cavalry, the infamous "Garry Owen" regiment once led by George Armstrong Custer.

Virgil was assigned to a radio section of Headquarters Company where he received and transmitted vitally important intelligence to embattled Army units. Virgil's hard work and quick learning was quickly noticed by his superiors, and Virgil was soon promoted to head the section. In October 1951, Virgil's communicators kept all units in contact when a Chinese counterattack threatened to overrun the regiment.

Virgil served on occupation duty in Japan until December 1952, when he returned home on leave to visit his family. At the end of his leave, Virgil and his family were involved in a tragic car accident which claimed the life of both his parents. Virgil, suffering from two broken legs, a broken elbow and numerous other injuries, was not expected to live. But, for the next eleven months, Virgil underwent several procedures at Letterman's Hospital where he fought to recover.

In November 1953, Corporal Virgil Ryals was honorably discharged from the United States Army. For his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan), the Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Virgil worked as a dairyman and farmer until 1959 when he accepted a position at the Chowchilla Post Office, where he worked for thirty-one years. Mention the name of Virgil Ryals to virtually anyone in Chowchilla and they will know the congenial, chatty, helpful postal worker who helped generations of Chowchillans.

His wife, Eva, passed away in 1999. They raised two beautiful children and have one grandchild. Virgil is a Life Member of Chowchilla VFW Post 9896, American Legion Post 148, and a member of St. Columba Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the service of Virgil Ryals for his dedication to his family and his country.

#### HONORING 2018 BARROW COUNTY REACH RECIPIENTS

#### HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dylan Ceraso, Jeanna Presley, Alejandro Tovar-Villagomez, and Morgan Watkins for being selected as 2018 REACH Scholars for Barrow County, Georgia.

Standing for "Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen," this needs-based mentorship and college scholarship program provides opportunity for academically-promising students from their eighth grade year through high school. In addition to remaining in high academic standing, students are required to meet with a mentor and maintain good attendance. Upon graduation from high school and successful completion of the program, the student is awarded a \$10,000 scholarship toward the cost of any HOPE-eligible institution in Georgia.

These REACH Georgia scholars are our future. Georgia has made a commitment to awarding those in need who demonstrate a high level of merit—an investment that will increase our workforce and grow our economy. I'm proud that we take these steps to ensure a brighter future for our children, our state, and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I expect great things from each of these special young scholars, and on behalf of Georgia's 10th Congressional District, I offer them my congratulations and wish them continued success.

#### CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY PRESS

#### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 12, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Syracuse University Press. Located at on the edge of Syracuse University's campus, the Syracuse University Press has been imperative to the strength and academic rigor of Syracuse University.

Founded by William P. Tolley and Thomas J. Watson in 1943, the Syracuse University Press is committed to promoting diverse cultural and intellectual expression, as well as preserving the history, literature, and culture of our region. Syracuse University Press emphasizes publications on the history, culture, and people of New York State, as well as works on Irish Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Peace Studies, Television and Popular Culture, Literature in Translation. As a recipient of the NEH/Mellon Open Book Program grant, Syracuse University Press has the unique ability to make out-of-print humanities books available again by re-creating them as free, open access e-books.

Syracuse University Press has published over 2,200 titles and sold over 3.5 million books. The pieces sold and published by Syracuse University Press are culturally diverse,